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Gamrath Seeks Sheriff Job On Demo Ticket

BY STUB NELSON
Post-Intelligencer Political Writer

Setting up a hot battle for the Democratic nomination for King County sheriff, Murray W. Gamrath Tuesday formally announced his candidacy for that office.



Gamrath is the chief criminal deputy in the sheriff's department. Don Sprinkle already has declared for sheriff. An undersheriff, he is the No. 2 man in the department and Gamrath is No. 3.

The Democratic incumbent, Tim McCullough, has said he will not ask reelection.

Neither Sprinkle nor Gamrath is publicly talking about personal differences, but at this point it appears that if one or the other is ultimately elected, the loser will not work for the winner.

SIGNIFICANTLY, Gamrath "announced" on the eve of the launching of Sprinkle's campaign. A fund-raising testimonial dinner will be held for Sprinkle in the Olympic Hotel Grand Ballroom this evening.

Gamrath was defeated by McCullough for the Democratic nomination for sheriff in the 1954 campaign, but went to work for McCullough when he assumed the office.

Gamrath, 51, has had 28 years experience in law enforcement work. He has served as a U.S. Treasury investigator, special agent for the U.S. Intelligence Agency and has held several different posts in the sheriff's department.

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